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one set to Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, of the district in which the vessel is to be built; and one set shall be retained at the Marine Safety Center. If such plans and specifications are not approved, the Marine Safety Center shall notify the owner or builder promptly wherein they fail to comply with the regulations in this chapter. For list of electrical plans see subchapter J (Electrical Engineering) of this chapter.

(1) The plans and specifications shall include the arrangement of the cargo gear. Prior to submission to the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, plans and specifications for cargo gear shall be approved by either a recognized classification society or the International Cargo Gear Bureau, Inc., whose home office is located at 321 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036, on the Internet at <http://www.icgb.com>.

(2) For vessels of 100 meters (328 feet) or more in length contracted for on or after September 7, 1990, a plan must be included which shows how visibility from the navigation bridge will meet the standards contained in §32.16-1 of this subchapter.

(b) *Inspection.* During construction, and upon completion of each tank vessel, it shall be inspected by the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, to determine whether it has been built in accordance with the approved plans and specifications, and, if so, a certificate of inspection endorsed as a permit for the carriage of flammable or combustible liquids in bulk for the proper grade or grades of cargo shall be issued to the vessel or its owner.

(c) *Certificate of class may be accepted.* In the event such tank vessel is classed by the American Bureau of Shipping or other recognized classification society, the approved plans and certificates of such society may be accepted by the Coast Guard as evidence of the structural efficiency of the hull and reliability of machinery, except as other-

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wise provided for by law and the rules and regulations in this subchapter.

[CGFR 65-50, 30 FR 16662, Dec. 30, 1965, as amended by CGD 74-125A, 47 FR 15230, Apr. 8, 1982; CGD 85-099, 55 FR 32247, Aug. 8, 1990; CGD 95-028, 62 FR 51197, Sept. 30, 1997; USCG-2000-7790, 65 FR 58459, Sept. 29, 2000; USCG-2007-29018, 72 FR 53964, Sept. 21, 2007; USCG-2008-0906, 73 FR 56509, Sept. 29, 2008]

§31.10-10 Vessels converted to tank vessels—TB/ALL.

The procedure for the inspection of vessels converted to tank vessels shall conform to the inspection for new tank vessels as called for in §31.10-5(b), and such vessels shall comply with the requirements of inspections for converted vessels as set forth in the regulations in this subchapter.

§31.10-15 Inspection for certification—TB/ALL.

(a) After receiving an application for inspection, the OCMI will inspect a tank vessel in his or her jurisdiction once every 5 years. The OCMI will ensure that every tank vessel is of a structure suitable for the carriage of flammable and/or combustible liquids in bulk and for the proper grade or grades of cargo the vessel carries while in service. If the OCMI deems it necessary, he or she may direct the vessel to be put in motion, and may adopt any other suitable means to test the tank vessel and its equipment.

(b) The inspection for certification shall include an inspection of the structure, boilers, and other pressure vessels, machinery and equipment. The inspection shall be such as to insure that the vessel, as regards the structure, boilers, and other pressure vessels and their appurtenances, piping, main and auxiliary machinery, electrical installations, life-saving appliances, fire-detecting and extinguishing equipment, pilot boarding equipment, and other equipment is in satisfactory condition and fit for the service for which it is intended, and that it complies with the applicable regulations for such vessels, and determine that the vessel is in possession of a valid certificate issued by the Federal Communications Commission, if required. The lights, means of making sound signals,

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and distress signals carried by the vessel shall also be subject to the above-mentioned inspection for the purpose of ensuring that they comply with the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations.

(c) If the vessel passes the inspection for certification, the OCMI will issue a new Certificate of Inspection.

[CGFR 65-50, 30 FR 16662, Dec. 30, 1965, as amended by CGFR 68-32, 33 FR 5712, Apr. 12, 1968; CGFR 68-82, 33 FR 18804, Dec. 18, 1968; CGD 82-036, 48 FR 655, Jan. 6, 1983; CGD 79-032, 49 FR 25455, June 21, 1984; CGD 95-012, 60 FR 48049, Sept. 18, 1995; CGD 95-027, 61 FR 25997, May 23, 1996; USCG-1999-4976, 65 FR 6499, Feb. 9, 2000]

§31.10-16 Inspection and certification of cargo gear—TB/ALL.

(a) The owner, operator or master shall provide the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection with all current valid certificates and registers of cargo gear issued by competent persons or a recognized organization or nonprofit association approved by the Commandant to certify the suitability of the cargo gear.

(b) Every acceptable cargo gear certificate and/or register shall be properly executed by a person authorized to do so and shall:

(1) Certify as to the tests and examinations conducted;

(2) Show the dates on which the tests and examinations were conducted; and

(3) Indicate that the cargo gear described in the certificate or register complies with the standards of the organization or association authorized to issue the certificate or register.

(c) Competent persons for the purposes of this section are defined as—

(1) Surveyors of a classification society recognized by the Commandant under 46 U.S.C. 3316,

(2) Surveyors of a recognized cargo gear organization; or

(3) Responsible officials or employees of the testing laboratories, companies, or organizations who conduct tests of pieces of loose cargo gear, wire rope, or the annealing of gear as may be required by the standards of the organization or association authorized to issue the certificate or register.

(d) The registers issued in connection with cargo gear certification must have all required entries fully com-

pleted as of the dates indicated, shall be kept current, and shall include the following:

(1) A register of the cargo handling machinery and the gear accessory thereto carried on the vessel named therein;

(2) Certification of the testing and examination of winches, derricks, and their accessory gear;

(3) Certification of the testing and examination of cranes, hoists, and their accessory gear;

(4) Certification of the testing and examination of chains, rings, hooks, shackles, swivels, and blocks;

(5) Certification of the testing and examination of wire rope;

(6) Certification of the heat treatment of chains, rings, hooks, shackles, and swivels which require such treatment; and,

(7) Certification of the annual thorough examinations of gear not required to be periodically heat treated.

(e) The authorization for organizations to perform the required inspection is granted by the Chief, Office of Vessel Activities, Commandant (CG-543), and will continue until superseded, canceled, or modified. The following organizations are currently recognized by the Commandant (CG-543) as having the technical competence to handle the required inspection:

(1) National Cargo Bureau, Inc., with home offices at 17 Battery Place, Suite 1232, New York, NY 10004; on the Internet at <http://www.natcargo.org>.

(2) The International Cargo Gear Bureau, Inc., with home office at 321 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036; on the Internet at <http://www.icgb.com>.

[CGFR 65-50, 30 FR 16662, Dec. 30, 1965, as amended by CGD 95-028, 62 FR 51197, Sept. 30, 1997; USCG-2007-29018, 72 FR 53964, Sept. 21, 2007; USCG-2008-0394, 73 FR 35961, June 25, 2008; USCG-2008-0906, 73 FR 56509, Sept. 29, 2008]

§31.10-17 Annual and periodic inspections—TB/ALL.

(a) *Annual inspection.* Your vessel must undergo an annual inspection within 3 months before or after each anniversary date, except as specified in paragraph (b) of this section.

(1) You must contact the cognizant OCMI to schedule an inspection at a